

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2080 without my signature.

Funding for a new cohort pursuant to the Academic Improvement and Achievement Act (AIAA) was not included in the final budget for 2004-05. I deleted the \$5 million augmentation because this small competitive grant program helps only 12 districts out of over 1,000 school districts in the state. The program has sufficient funding to complete the existing cohort. As previously stated, these funds should be spent for educational priorities agreed to with the education community to provide more flexible funding so local schools can fund their most important needs.

Therefore, I am unable to support this legislation.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger